



**Council Meeting: July 22, 2008**

**SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution to Participate in the FOCUS Priority Development Area (PDA) Program in Order to be Awarded a Grant for Efforts to Encourage More Housing and to Improve the Community Area Adjacent to Transit**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Regional agencies are working to provide a blueprint for regional development, especially along transportation corridors and at city cores, through a program called FOCUS, or Focusing our Vision. The result will be possible funding from different sources for local agencies. By adopting a resolution (Attachment A) that supports this effort, the City of Sunnyvale can apply for future technical assistance, planning grants and capital grants, when they become available.

**BACKGROUND**

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and the Bay Conservation and Development Corporation (BCDC) are leading an effort to identify a regional blueprint for defining future growth in the region. This effort is called Focusing our Vision, or FOCUS. This blueprint for growth in the entire region is necessary to be prepared for opportunities for funding from regional, state or federal grant programs. The incentive of receiving PDA status is it will allow agencies to be eligible for possible technical assistance and planning and capital grants.

**EXISTING POLICY**

Land Use and Transportation Element:

Goal R1: Protect and sustain a high quality of life in Sunnyvale by participating in coordinated land use and transportation planning in the region.

*Action Statement:* Participate in intergovernmental activities related to regional and sub-regional land use and transportation planning in order to advance the City's interests.

**DISCUSSION**

As part of the FOCUS effort, Priority Development Areas (PDA) will be established to assist in developing a blueprint for growth in the region. MTC and ABAG have defined a PDA as an area that is:

- Already developed
- Located within ¼ mile of transit service; and
- Within an area where additional housing is planned.

Local jurisdictions may apply for PDA status on a voluntary basis. Sunnyvale appears to meet the above criteria in several locations, including downtown, along El Camino Real, Lawrence Station Caltrain station and along the VTA light-rail line (see map in Attachment B for general locations- a formal map will be included as part of the PDA application).

In addition, VTA submitted a city-endorsed Cores, Corridors and Station Areas on behalf of qualifying cities within Santa Clara County. The Cores, Corridors and Station areas framework identifies future growth in the Community Design & Transportation (CDT) program. By taking that action, jurisdictions in the Cores, Corridors and Station Areas (which Sunnyvale is) may apply for future technical assistance and planning grants. It also allows jurisdictions in those areas to apply for capital grants, when they become available. In order to be eligible for this, Sunnyvale must:

- Have an appropriate land use plan adopted.
- Sign a resolution of local support for the portion(s) of the Cores, Corridors and Station areas located within the city.

The draft resolution (Attachment A) would make the City of Sunnyvale eligible for future grants, and would provide support for the regional effort to provide a blueprint for future growth in locations near transit and in city cores. Applying for a PDA designation does not require a commitment to any land use change or levels of development.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Possible grant funding could be made available from an application made to become a Priority Development Area, but this is not known at this time.

### **PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, in the Office of the City Clerk, at the Library, Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; posting the agenda and report on the City's Web site; and making the report available at the Library and the Office of the City Clerk.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Adopt a resolution to allow staff to make application for the FOCUS PDA designation (Attachment A).
2. Adopt a revised resolution to allow staff to make application for the FOCUS PDA designation.
3. Do not adopt the resolution.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Alternative 1.

Reviewed by:

Hanson Hom, Director of Community Development  
Reviewed by: Trudi Ryan  
Prepared by: Andrew Miner, Principal Planner

Approved by:

Amy Chan  
City Manager

**Attachments**

- A. Resolution endorsing the FOCUS Effort

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREA DESIGNATION UNDER THE FOCUS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in coordination with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Bay Conservation and Development Commission (collectively, the "regional agencies") are undertaking a regional planning initiative called FOCUS; and

WHEREAS, FOCUS program goals support a future regional development pattern that is compact and connected; and

WHEREAS, the regional agencies seek local government partners to create a specific and share concept of where growth can be accommodated (priority development area) and what areas need protection (priority conservation area) in the region; and

WHEREAS, a priority development area must meet all of the following criteria: (a) within an existing community; (b) near existing or planned fixed transit (or served by comparable bus service); and (c) is planned, or is planning, for more housing; and

WHEREAS, local governments in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area are eligible to apply for designation of an area within their community as a priority development area; and

WHEREAS, the regional agencies are committed to securing incentives and providing technical assistance to designated priority development areas so that positive change can be achieved in communities working to advance focused growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE THAT:

1. The City Council supports the City's involvement in the FOCUS process and authorizes the execution and filing of an application for Priority Development Area Designation with FOCUS.
2. The City Council authorizes submitting an application to designate those areas within the City of Sunnyvale identified in Exhibit A attached hereto as priority development areas.
3. A copy of this resolution will be transmitted to FOCUS in conjunction with the filing of the application.

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk  
(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Kahn, City Attorney



# Potential Corridors, Cores and Station Areas

